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## PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.

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### UNITED STATES.

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*Proclamation of the governor of Texas relative to campaign against  
recrudescence of yellow fever.*

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,  
*Austin, Tex., June 16, 1904.*

*To the people of Texas:*

I have received the following communication from Dr. George R. Tabor, our State health officer, and believe it to be my duty to submit the same for public attention and consideration and to admonish the people as to the urgent needs of vigorous and systematic action. The public health is equal to the public safety. We can not, even under ordinary conditions, be too careful and persistent in our efforts to promote the health of our people and minimize as far as practicable our liability to disease; but especially is it our duty to employ every precaution and all means at our command to prevent epidemics, and remove, wherever possible, the causes that bring them about.

It is known that last year we had yellow fever in certain localities in Texas, and as a result we suffered loss of life, and were compelled to resort to quarantine and other methods to prevent its spread. As suggested by Doctor Tabor, we have had a mild winter, and it is to be apprehended that in consequence there is an increased necessity for the observance of the utmost sanitary care to avoid the recurrence of the scourge to which we were subjected. The awful consequences of a yellow-fever epidemic can not be overestimated, and I urge with all emphasis that our people everywhere, and especially in the southern and central portions of the State, use their best exertions at once and continuously, to the end that the public health be preserved and the calamities of possible pestilence averted.

I can not too earnestly impress upon the attention of our county and municipal authorities, local health officers, and the people generally the prime importance of this matter. Should the yellow fever reappear early or in midsummer, we may reasonably anticipate conditions of greater severity and embarrassment than those with which we had to contend last year. I adjure our people to give immediate heed to the suggestions of Doctor Tabor, and to do everything in their power, both as officials and individual citizens, in the prosecution of the necessary sanitary campaigns.

Respectfully, etc.,

S. W. T. LANHAM, *Governor.*

AUSTIN, TEX., *June 16, 1904.*

Hon. S. W. T. LANHAM,

*Governor of the State of Texas, Austin, Tex.*

DEAR SIR: I beg to call your attention to the fact that ever since quarantine was raised against Laredo and San Antonio last fall this Department has undertaken by every possible means to impress upon the people of Texas the necessity of a sanitary campaign for the prevention of a recrudescence of yellow fever in the places mentioned and the occurrence of it at other points in the State. We have repeatedly sent out circular letters and literature bearing upon this subject, complaining of the unsanitary conditions in some localities, urging that prompt and vigorous action be taken in every community in the State, but so far as I can learn very few places have undertaken any measures upon the lines suggested. The places infected last year have adopted stringent sanitary ordinances, which have been enforced all spring, and I have less fear of the reappearance of fever in those places than in south, central, and north Texas, where, in so many places, no precautions whatever are being taken.

On account of the very mild winter just passed, and the prevalence of yellow fever in Mexico at present, I very much fear that should a case be introduced into the State with the present very bad sanitary condition of a large number of our cities and towns, and the presence of the yellow-fever mosquito, which also exists in large numbers throughout the State, we will have the most extensive epidemic of yellow fever ever known.

A conference of local health officers was called and largely attended in this city on the 31st of March, and considerable enthusiasm prevailed at this meeting. I expected good results would follow. The local health officers, I find, are always willing and anxious to inaugurate sanitary campaigns, but are usually prevented from doing effective work by the lack of sufficient support from the proper authorities. I therefore respectfully request your excellency to issue a communication calling upon the county judges, mayors, and health officers of Texas to inaugurate sanitary campaigns in every community in the State without delay, especially for the destruction of the mosquitoes.

I am, very respectfully,

GEORGE R. TABOR,  
*State Health Officer.*

*Vessels leaving Vancouver for ports in Alaska or the United States not to be required to have consular bill of health.*

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
*Washington, June 30, 1904.*

The SECRETARY OF STATE.

SIR: Referring to my letter to you, under date of May 26, 1904, requesting that the United States consul at Vancouver be directed to require that all vessels leaving Vancouver for any port in Alaska or in the United States take out consular bill of health until further notice; also to your letter of June 25, 1904, inclosing copy of a dispatch from the consul at Vancouver reporting that there is no longer any danger of an epidemic of smallpox at that place, I have the honor